

Message Text

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43

ORIGIN SS-30

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT IMMEDIATE

XMT AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

S E C R E T STATE 222719

EXDIS TOSEC 397 INFORM CONSULS ZFF4 PEKING

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XF

SUBJECT: MIDDLE EAST SITUATION NO. 108

PEKING FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

ROME FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SISCO

INFORM CONSULS

VIENNA PASS USDEL MBFR

KUWAIT POUCH MUSCAT AND DOHA

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

COAST GUARD FOR POLAD

1. EGYPTIAN/ISRAELI AGREEMENT. THE EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI SIX POINT AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED AS SCHEDULED AT 1500 LOCAL NOVEMBER 11. MAJOR GENERAL YARIV SIGNED FOR ISRAEL AND MAJOR GENERAL JAMMASI FOR EGYPT. DUE TO COMMUNICATIONS DIFFICULTIES NEWS OF THE SIGNING WAS LATE IN REACHING ISRAELI AUTHORITIES.

2.'ARAFAT TO MOSCOW. ARAB MEDIA REPORT PLO CHAIRMAN
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YASIR 'ARAFAT HAS TRAVELLED TO MOSCOW TO HOLD TALKS WITH SOVIET OFFICIALS ON THE MIDDLE EAST SITUATION. THERE IS NO CONFIRMATION OF THESE REPORTS FROM MOSCOW. LEBANESE PAPER AL ANWAR SAYS THAT PFLP LEADER GEORGE HABASH AND

NAYIF HAWATMEH (HEAD OF DPFLP) WILL JOIN 'ARAFAT IN MOSCOW. ACCORDING TO AN AFP REPORT FROM BEIRUT, AL FATAH HAS ISSUED A COMMUNIQUE CATEGORICALLY DENYING THAT THE ORGANIZATION HAD CONSENTED TO ATTEND A MIDDLE EAST PEACE CONFERENCE.

3. AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE EILTS IN CAIRO. CAIRO MENA REPORTED AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE EILTS' ARRIVAL IN CAIRO NOVEMBER 11. MENA NOTED EILTS' ARRIVAL COINCIDES WITH THE SIGNING OF THE SIX POINT AGREEMENT AND CARRIED EXCERPTS FROM HIS ARRIVAL STATEMENT.

4. SOVIET MISSILES IN EGYPT. USINT CAIRO WAS TOLD BY A SOVIET TASS CORRESPONDENT THAT THE USSR HAD AGREED TO AN EGYPTIAN REQUEST TO SEND SSMS AND SOVIET CREWS TO EGYPT. THE MISSILES ARRIVED ABOUT OCTOBER 16. THE SOURCE ADDED IMMEDIATELY BEFORE CEASE-FIRE SEVERAL MISSILES HAD BEEN LAUNCHED AGAINST ISRAELI POSITIONS IN GAZA AREA. SOURCE SAID MISSILES MANNED ONLY BY SOVIET CREWS AND UNDER EXCLUSIVE SOVIET CONTROL; HE ALSO ACKNOWLEDGED THAT A NUMBER OF MIG-23S HAD BEEN DELIVERED TO EGYPT AND WERE BEING FLOWN BY EGYPTIAN PILOTS.

5. UNEF/UNTSO. A CANADIAN UN ALCE CONTINGENT OF ELEVEN OFFICERS AND THIRTY-TWO ENLISTED PERSONNEL HAS ARRIVED IN CAIRO. THE CANADIAN FORCE HAS OPERATIONS AND TRAFFIC TEAMS AND WILL PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR ALL UN AIRLIFTS. WITH CANADIAN ALCE TEAM ON BOARD, US PERSONNEL (435TH ALCE) BEING RETURNED TO FRG.

6. HAYKAL EDITORIAL. AL AHRAH EDITOR HAYKAL HAS RENEWED HIS CALL FOR AN ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE TO DRAW UP A COMPREHENSIVE ARAB STRATEGY PRIOR O THE CONVOCAION OF A PEACE CONFERENCE. HAYKAL SAID HE IS STILL CONVINCED PEACE IS "FAR, FAR AWAY" AND CITED SECRETARY'S BELIEF THAT SIX MONTHS TO YEAR NEEDED TO REACH REASONABLE
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BEGINNING IN SUPPORT OF THIS THESIS. HAYKAL ALSO EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS ABOUT U.S. STAND TOWARD CRISIS, QUESTIONING PRESIDENT NIXON'S ABILITY TO CONFRONT JEWISH AND ISRAELI PRESSURE GROUPS.

7. ASST SEC SISCO IN BEIRUT. MR. SISCO LEFT BEIRUT FOR ROME AT 1213Z NOV 11. LEBANESE FM NAFTA TOLD REPORTERS THAT ATMOSPHERE WHICH PREVAILED IN HIS TALKS WITH SISCO "GIVES RISE TO OPTIMISM THAT PEACE IN THIS REGION IS NOT IMPOSSIBLE AND NOT VERY REMOTE." RUSH

SECRET

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